SENATE BILL 54 By Cohen

AN ACT to enact the "TennCare Preservation Act of 2005" and to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 56; Title 67, Chapter 4, Part 10 and Title 68. This act makes appropriations for the purpose of providing health care programs to disadvantaged Tennesseans for an indefinite period of time.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "TennCare Preservation Act of 2005".

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 67-4-1004(a), is amended by deleting the language "ten (10) mills" and by substituting instead the language "thirty-three and one-half (33½) mills".

SECTION 3. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, any increase in revenue generated from the increase in tax levied in §67-4-1004(a) from ten (10) mills to thirty-three and one-half (33½) mills shall be deposited into a special account within the general fund to be used first to maximize available Federal funding for the TennCare program or a successor entity or program and second to provide statewide health care programs or services to disadvantaged Tennesseans. All such funds shall be used to supplement, not supplant, existing resources for such programs and services.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005, the public welfare requiring it.